UNITED STATES KARATE ALLIANCE

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# THE UNITED STATES KARATE ALLIANCE HALL OF FAME DOES IT AGAIN

by Eddie B. Bethea, Jr.

Already it seems so long ago since the United States Alliance 2000 World Championships, but it hasn't been that long. The memories are still very vivid in my mind as I can see all of the Hall of Fame members squaring off in the finals. Mind you, this also includes the Bushido Award members from the United States Karate-Do Kai. Let me ask you a question first, "Were you at the championships this year?"

If you were not at the championships, then it will be difficult for you to imagine any of this, especially, if you don't know the people. First, I can only say that The United States Karate Alliance really made the tournament as competitive as it could possibly be. They had numerous events scheduled this year that they have never had in previous tournaments. They had several different team events; Chanbara; Continuous Sparring; Koshiki; and Grappling. There were quite a few more events for the kids to compete in than they have had in the past. They brought a lot of excitement to the kids and the parents. I can truly say that it was interesting to stand off and watch the

crowd and the proud parents, Senseis, and proud grandparents just scream their heads off. I am telling you that this event is growing by leaps and bounds. It was very interesting to watch the celebration of the foreign competitors as they competed and placed in particular events.

What is more exciting is that today's young athletes are stronger and faster. It is amazing to watch some of the young kids and the things that they do with their bodies when they are competing. Sometimes as I watch them, I just think to myself that I'm glad that I will probably never have to compete against them. There is some of this fire and brimstone already in the upper divisions and it is a little scary to watch that blazing speed and their acrobatic techniques. Some can make these applications in their sparring and I give them extra special notice. I really don't know how much competition is left in me but you can bet that I will keep a very watchful eye on these youngsters.

Now, we began talking about the finals and I had to cut away to ensure that you had the complete skinny on everything that went on. I hope I'm not omitting anybody, but here is a list of Hall of Fame members who were in the finals: **John Pat Bullock**, **John Manley** (USKK Bushido), **John Venson**, **Reginald Venson**, **Joe Dupaquier**, **Rodney McPherson**, **Cassandra Shults**, **Kristen Gilliland**, **Buster Cotten**, **Lee Kittell**, and **Eddie Bethea**. When it was all over, it was **John Pat**, **Buster**, and **Cassandra** who were taking the Grand Championship trophies back home with them.

However, this was not all of the excitement this year. For the first time, the HOF selected competitors as Senior And Junior All Americans. These are those individuals who may not yet qualify for or have not been nominated for HOF induction. They are still trail blazing and are very strong competitors in their respective areas. The following is a list of new inductees to the United States Karate Alliance Hall Of Fame followed by this years' All Americans.

minimum of 10-12 clashes each match."

The kumite Grand Champion win is the third for Mr. Bullock, his second in a row. His name gets added to another very short list of men who have won the title three times. The others are **Bill Wallace**, **Flem Evans**, **Herb Johnson**, **Johnny Linebarger** and **Eddie Bethea**.

"What's important to me personally is the quality of the arts that is being passed on by the Alliance to the younger generations," Mr. Bullock said. "If it weren't for that, I wouldn't be fighting."

The Women's Black Belt Grand Champion Kumite winner was Albuquerque's **Teresa Davies**, who snagged the trophy after competing at World just one other time as a black belt. The 19-year-old University of New Mexico student won her featherweight division after beating **Angelica Drexel** and **Sandy Cheung**. Ms Davies then went on to the Grand Championship rounds where she beat **Monica Dupaquier** and **Susan Watts**.

"I'm not sure you'd call it a strategy, but I tried to get off the line first," Ms. Davies said. "Normally I can get the point first if I get off the line first. Other than speed, I tried to use my side kick to keep people off me. Once people get in on me, it's easier for them to just run over me, so I try keep them away from me from the beginning."

Ms. Davies also won first place in the Black Belt Women's Kata division, where she performed Anaku Ni. "I've done the kata since I was a lot younger, and I like the deep kiba dachi stances in it. I also like the side kick in the kata because it ends up being right in front of the judges, so from a performance point of view I think it's a good tournament kata for me."

She also competed on the winning Women's Black Belt Fighting Team, along with dojo mates **Cassandra Shults** and **Anita Gallegos**.

"I had a great year," she said. "I couldn't ask for better. I finished the point season ranked first in fighting and fifth in kata."

Her performance at World was made even sweeter by having her father, Alliance Hall of Famer **Tim Davies**, present to cheer her on. "It was just amazing and really exciting and really nice to have my dad there," she said. "He was very proud of me."

Other big winners at World included Indiana's **Donnie Michaels**, a student of **Eddie Bethea**, who won Black Belt Weapons Grand

Champion; **Christina VanGieson**, from California, a student of **Maria Evans**, who won Adult Kyu Weapons Grand Champion; Louisiana's **Timothy Randolph**, a student of **Pat Feltey**, who won Youth Weapons Grand Champion; **Gabriel Garcia** who won Adult Kyu Kata Grand Champion; Louisiana's **Chris Otwell**, a student of **Buster Cotten**, who won the Youth Advanced Kata Grand Champion; and **Norbert Reeves**, a student of **Peter Ohuscak**, who won Youth Kyu Intermediate Kata Grand Champion.

In the team events, Team Alliance won three separate Grand Champion divisions. These included the Senior Black Belt Men Kumite, whose members were **Eddie Bethea**, **Lee Kittell** and **Joe Dupaquier**.

Mr. Bullock also competed on the winning black belt fighting team with **Buster Cotten** and **Chris Hawkes**, who won The Men's Black Belt Team Fighting event, consisting of John Pat Bullock, Buster Cotten and Chris Hawkes. The same three competitors fought in the International Team Fighting event, which defeated Team Argentina.

The Grand Champion Team Kata winner was "Joe's Girls," which consisted of **Sandy Cheung**, **Katie Hoogerwerf** and **Gabrielle Garner**.

The Women's Black Belt Team Kumite Grand Champion winners were **Cassandra Shults**, **Teresa Davies** and **Anita Gallegos**, all from the Jim Hawkes Karate Academy.

Finally, a number of competitors were singled out during 2001 World for individual honors.

**Chris Hawkes**, from the Jim Hawkes Karate Academy in Albuquerque was the only person inducted this year into the United States Karate Alliance Hall of Fame. Mr. Hawkes is a 4th Degree Black Belt under the tutelage of his uncle, **Sensei James Hawkes**. When asked about his nephew, and student, Sensei said, "He certainly is a fine young man, I'm really proud of him."

The United States Karate Alliance Hall of Fame would like to recognize the following new All American inductees announced at the World Championship banquet: **Teresa Davies, J. Wayne Bevers, Dean Patin, Dan Rupert, James Lee, Travis Bush, Daniel Jordan, Randy Sanders, Monique Dupaquier, and Sam Shaw**.

Also recognized at the World Championship banquet were the following new Junior All American inductees: **Keili Summey, Richard Poage, Doug Saylor, Adrian Galvan, Timothy Randolph, Michael Calhoun, Josh Quayhagen, Clay O'Neil, Don Lovato, Roman Volak** (an international member from Slovakia) and **Cesar Romero and Blanco Fons** (international members from Spain).

The Trias Memorial Award was presented at the World Championship banquet. This award is given to an individual who exemplifies the things that **Grandmaster Robert A. Trias** represented. They have distinguished themselves in their dojo and their community. This year's recipient was **Jeff Crothers** of Crothers Keichu-Do in Carlsbad, California.

Congratulations to All!

# AMERICA UNITES

Americans everywhere unite as we mourn the many lives lost and changed by the tragic terrorist attack. It seems everyone you talk to has somehow been affected by the shocking incidents of September 11, 2001, a date we won't soon forget.

"We have been horrified by these incidences, but we will not be terrorized." – President Bush. We must be on alert, but we must also go on with our daily lives.

The United States Karate Alliance would like to offer its condolences to all those who have suffered losses due to the terrorist attacks made on the United States of America. We also offer our support to all who are being called up to protect our freedom and way of life in America. We salute you.

God Bless America!

# CONDOLENCES

The martial arts community mourns the loss of one of its own. Theresa Fisher, a Black Belt from Tempe, Arizona passed away on September 9, 2001. Her husband, Ray

Fisher, runs the Arizona Chuan Fa Society Karate School in Tempe, Arizona. Ms. Fisher is survived by her husband, and two children. Our condolences go out to her family, friends, and fellow martial artists for their great loss.

Condolences may be sent to:

Ray Fisher
Arizona Chuan Fa Society
1845 E. Broadway #124
Tempe, AZ 85282

## 2001 World Championship Pictures

Pictures taken at the 2001 World Championships with the Directors, James H. Hawkes and Dr. David Jordan.

***John Pat Bullock*** ***Teresa Davies*** ***Donnie Michaels***

**Christina VanGieson** **Gabriel Garcia** **Timothy Randolph**

what's expected of him in class and in tournaments. And he has a very clear picture of what his goals are."

Mr. Holmes also said Chase is "a pleasure to teach and to coach." Furthermore, Chase, he said, "is not afraid of anything." Most of the kids Chase fights in the 6-, 7- and 8-year-old color belt division "are much taller than him, but that doesn't deter him at all. He goes after them and consistently beats them. Chase is fearless. When he's about 19 or 20 years old, I hope he's my good friend, because he's going to be an awesome black belt."

Mr. Holmes said Chase is lucky to have not only the support of his brother and father, but also his mother, **Linda**, and sister, **Rebecca**, 12, who cheer him on and nurture his martial arts efforts.

Jeff Schotz is equally complimentary of Mr. Holmes, who is "really dedicated to bringing these kids up to competitive levels," he said. "Chase has benefited from that devotion."

For all his accomplishments in karate, no one should get the idea that Chase has a one-track mind. This first grader at Whispering Wind Elementary School in Phoenix is an excellent student and enjoys playing basketball and riding motorized go-carts. Chase also exhibits a streak of entrepreneurial-ship, something he gets from his parents, no doubt, who are independent real estate developers.

He buys go-carts with his own money that he saved from birthday presents and allowance, explained his father. "Chase reads the newspaper classifieds, finds who is selling them, and then we go to check them out. He negotiates for the best deal before buying. Chase cleans and polishes them up and rides them for a little while before selling them -- for a profit. He paid $225 for the last go-cart he bought and played with it for two weeks before selling it for $425."

Chase's brother Bryce does the same thing with paddle boats and canoes, and sister Rebecca is an accomplished equestrian.

"The parents have really done their job," said Mr. Holmes. "This is a good family. They make it easy and enjoyable for me, as an instructor, to come in and contribute to their lives."

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